

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 17807 01 OF 02 141103Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SIL-01 LAB-01 NIC-01 SAM-01 /069 W

----- 103825

R 141046Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6250

INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN JQWOU

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 17807 01 OF 02 141103Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 17807

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW

SUBJECT: DGB BONN LIAISON CHIEF ARRESTED FOR ESPIONAGE
AND LATER RELEASED

REF: (1) BONN 13235, 13389

(2) BONN 06630, 06731, SEP 27 AND 29, 1972

(3) STUTTGART 0763

1. SUMMARY. WALTER BOEHM, 56, THE GERMAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (DGB) LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE AND CHIEF LOBBYIST IN BONN, AND HIS WIFE WERE ARRESTED ON NOVEMBER 11 FOR SUSPECTED ESPIONAGE. ON NOVEMBER 13, THE FEDERAL JUDGE IN KARLSRUHE RELEASED THEM BUT REFUSED COMMENT. THE FEDERAL ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE ANNOUNCED THE BOEHM INVESTIGATION WILL CONTINUE. BOEHM'S ARREST AND ESPIONAGE CHARGES HEADLINE PRESS TREATMENT SIMILAR TO RECENT "GUILLAUME SPY AFFAIR".
END SUMMARY.

2. BOEHM BECAME CHIEF OF THE DGB'S BONN LIAISON OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1971. HE ARRIVED IN THE FRG AS AN EAST GERMAN REFUGEE IN 1958 AND ALLEGEDLY HAD WORKED WITH THE SPD EAST BUREAU WHILE IN EAST GERMANY. FROM 1963 TO 1965, HE WORKED FOR DGB PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICE IN DUESSELDORF. IN 1965, HE WAS SENT TO INDONESIA TO HEAD FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE OFFICE IN JAKARTA AND WORKED THERE UNTIL HE RETURNED TO THE FRG TO ASSUME HIS DUTIES IN BONN. WHILE IN BONN, HE MAINTAINED LIAISON WITH THE BUNDESTAG, GOVERNMENT OFFICES, POLITICAL PARTIES AND FOREIGN EMBASSIES. HE ALSO SERVED AS DGB REPRESENTATIVE ON MINISTRY OF INNER-GERMAN AFFAIRS ADVISORY COUNCIL ON GERMAN REUNIFICATION QUESTIONS AND ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE KURATORIUM UNTEILBARES DEUTSCHLAND. BOEHM ALSO WAS A CAPTAIN (RESERVE) IN THE BUNDESWEHR AND ALLEGEDLY PARTICIPATED IN PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE TRAINING PROGRAMS. HE RETURNED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BONN 17807 01 OF 02 141103Z

FROM A SHORT ACTIVE DUTY TOUR A FEW WEEKS BEFORE HE WAS ARRESTED.

3. THE DGB HAS CONFIRMED THAT HE WAS ARRESTED ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, AND THAT THE DGB DISMISSED HIM FOR CAUSE THE SAME DAY. IN A PRESS RELEASE NOVEMBER 12, THE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 17807 02 OF 02 141109Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SIL-01 LAB-01 NIC-01 SAM-01 /069 W

----- 103930

R 141046Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6251

INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MU ICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 17807 02 OF 02 141109Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 17807

DGB ANNOUNCED BOEHM'S IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL FOR CAUSE DUE TO BOEHM'S "EXCEEDING HIS DELEGATED AUTHORITY" AND TO "LOSS OF CONFIDENCE" IN HIM. FURTHERMORE, THE DGB SAID, IT HAD INFORMED COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF ITS SUSPICION THAT BOEHM WAS INVOLVED IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY. SO FAR, THE DGB HAS NOT REACTED TO BOEHM'S RELEASE BY THE FEDERAL JUDGE IN KARL.

JUDGE PRESIDENT VETTER ALSO CLAIMED IN A NOVEMBER 12 TV INTERVIEW THAT THE DGB HAD INFORMED RESPONSIBLE FRG OFFICES ABOUT CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING BOEHM'S RELIABILITY.

4. SO FAR, BOEHM HAS DENIED THE CHARGES.

5. COMMENT. FOR THE PAST SIX WEEKS BOEHM HAS BEEN UNDER INVESTIGATION AND HAS BEEN INTERROGATED SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE HIS ARREST AND RELEASE. IF THESE CHARGES AGAINST BOEHM ARE SUSTAINED, THIS SPY CASE PROMISES TO BE EMBARRASSING AS FAR AS THE DGB AND SPD ARE CONCERNED. THIS CASE CLIMAXES 5 SIGNIFICANT ESPIONAGE CASES DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS INCLUDING: (A) WILHELM GRONAU (REF 1), HEAD DGB EAST-WEST SECRETARIAT; (B) MRS. GRONAU, WHO WORKED AS PERSONAL SECRETARY OF PETER MICHELS, DIRECTOR OF THE LARGEST DGB REGIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE STATE OF NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA; (C) GUENTER GUILLAUME (REF 2), LABOR ADVISOR OF EX-CHANCELLOR WILLY BRANDT; (D) HANS FALTERMEIER (REF 3), EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER AND HEAD ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT OF DGB PUBLIC SERVICES UNION, AND (E) THE BOEHM CASE. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT AT LEAST ONE OTHER SIMILAR CASE AGAINST AN SPD LABOR REPRESENTATIVE IS PENDING.

HILLENBRAND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ESPIONAGE, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, ARRESTS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BONN17807
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740328-0734
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741145/aaaablnl.tel
Line Count: 212
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (1) BONN 13235, 13389
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <24 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DGB BONN LIAISON CHIEF ARRESTED FOR ESPIONAGE AND LATER RELEASED
TAGS: ELAB, GE, (BOEHM, WALTER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005